

April 27, 2020

STROKE CARE IN THE SOUTHEAST DURING COVID-19

Stroke care continues to be an essential and emergency service during the pandemic. Signs and symptoms of stroke MUST be responded to as an emergency with an immediate call to 9-1-1. Any delay can have a significant negative impact.

What is happening in the Southeast:

- Safety protocols for COVID-19 are in place across the care continuum including paramedic services, emergency departments, in-hospital and rehabilitation units and home care
- Paramedics continue to respond to all emergency calls including stroke and will transport the patient to the most appropriate treatment hospital
- Emergency Departments continue to follow the standard stroke protocol to ensure all patients receive timely testing and treatment
- Acute Stroke Units (hospital units specialized in stroke care) continue to admit individuals who have experienced a stroke to ensure they receive best practice stroke care
- Hospital capacity remains good across the southeast including Acute Stroke Units and Intensive Care Units (ICU)
- Inpatient rehabilitation units are continuing to provide care to stroke patients
- Stroke Prevention Clinics are continuing to follow up on all referrals with in-person and virtual visits. The southeast has been a provincial leader in using virtual visits to provide high quality, specialized stroke follow-up.
- Community rehabilitation continues with in-person and virtual visits
- Community supports continue including virtual supports for all stroke support group participants; a listing of virtual and on-line community supports can be accessed on the Stroke Network website at www.strokenetworkseo.ca

FACE is it drooping?
A RMS can you raise both?
SPEECH is it slurred or jumbled?
TIME to call 9-1-1 right away.

ACT **F A S T** BECAUSE THE QUICKER YOU ACT,
THE MORE OF THE PERSON YOU SAVE.